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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/806,005	03/23/2001	Dieter Maisch	4595-17PUS	1305

2352 7590 08/07/2003

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NEW YORK, NY 100368403

EXAMINER

DONOVAN, LINCOLN D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2832

DATE MAILED: 08/07/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No. 09/806,005	Applicant(s) Maisch et al.
Examiner Lincoln Donovan	Art Unit 2832

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on May 14, 2003.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 2 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 2 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

6) Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In lines 10-13, applicant should clarify the structure of the “protrusion that engages in a complimentary opening end force opening in the housing so that a predetermined length of the protrusion overlaps the opening so as to form a gap between the protrusion and the opening which is secure against ignition penetration.” It is not clear what applicant intends by “end force opening” and how the gap between the protrusion and the opening secure against ignition penetration.”

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claim 2, as best able to be understood in view of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by DE 2926549.

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DE 2926549 discloses a valve solenoid comprising:

- a housing [1] having first and second parts [figure 1];
- a coil [23];
- an iron circuit [13];
- a casing compound [4, 22] introduced into the first part of the housing embedding the iron circuit and coil; and
 - connection elements [31, 31] arranged in the second housing part, wherein the second housing part is “configured to resist explosion pressure in case of an internal explosion and prevents transmission of the explosion to the environment;” and
 - a cover [15] on an end of the second housing part to close the housing including protrusions [figure 1] that engages an end face of the second part to secure against ignition penetration.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 04-16-02 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues:

- [1] the seal is not permissible in a pressure resistant environment;
- [2] the cap structure is not shown by DE2926549; and
- [3] DE2926549 does not show the flame proof environment.

Examiner disagrees:

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Regarding [1] and [3]: Applicant has not specifically claimed a flame proof environment, applicant merely claims that an explosive atmosphere from reaching live portions of the solenoid. The seal would be permissible in the environment as claimed.

Regarding [3]: DE 2926549 discloses the cap overlapping and providing a seal with the second housing part.

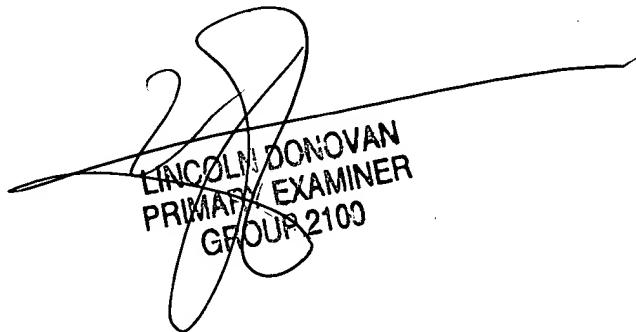
Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Lincoln Donovan whose telephone number is (703) 308-3111.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-0956.

LLD

August 4, 2003



LINCOLN DONOVAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 2103